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NONFERROUS METAL INDUSTRY REPORTS PROGRESS;
EAST KAZAKH ENTERPRISES CRITICIZED

INDUSTRY ADOPTS NEW NORMS

REPORTS PRODUCTION OF KAZAKH ENTERPRISES

In the field of capital investments, the Ministry of the Metallurgical Industry completed only 66 percent of the third-quarter plan. The volume of capital investment in 9 months of 1950 as compared with 9 months of 1949 was 147 percent for projects and enterprises of the ministry.

An editorial in Kazakhstanskaya Pravda points out the following:

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Many enterprises and a number of branches of industry in the Kazakh SSR are not meeting the plans. The mining and metallurgical industry of Vostochno-Kazakhstan Oblast, in particular, is lagging. The Leninogorsk Polymetallic Combine owes much production to the state. The combine's directors and leaders of the Leninogorsk City Party Committee have not made effective use of the tremendous volume of material and technical assistance afforded them by the state. The poor organization of production has led to continual idleness of equipment and to large losses of metal. Tremendous reserves for increasing output remain unused at the Zyryanovsk and Berezovka mine administrations.(2)

SOME KAZAKH ENTERPRISES IMPROVE

Other reports from Vostochno-Kazakhstan Oblast indicate some improvements in the oblast's metallurgical enterprises: the Leninogorsk Mine has recently been improving its operations. In October, it exceeded the 25-day plan for mining and for metal content of the ore.(3) During the postwar years, the output of ore at the mine has doubled. Heavy-duty electric mine locomotives have replaced horse and hand transport, and scraper winches and ore loaders have replaced shovels. New drills are being used in place of the old type. The brigades at the mine are striving for an output of 1,000 tons of ore per month per brigade, each brigade consisting of 6 men. The number of complex brigades achieving the 1,000-ton mark has increased from two in June to 30 at the present time (4).

The Sokol'nyy Mine has also improved its work. The great increase in production indexes has enabled the 10th and 11th sectors to convert to two-shift operation. Under this new system, these sectors, formerly lagging, have increased ore mining 27 percent and labor productivity 12 percent above plan. The fourth sector was also converted to 2-shift operation in October.(3) In both the Sokol'nyy and Leninogorsk mines, 45 brigades are now achieving the goal of 1,000 tons per month.

Leninogorsk city construction is being speeded. During the summer, dozens of houses were completed. Ulitsa Kirova, main street in the city, is being asphalted.

Labor productivity of miners, concentrators, and metallurgists of the Leninogorsk Polymetallic Combine is increasing. The monthly wage of each miner in one particular brigade ranges from 7,000-10,000 rubles. One technician in charge of a sector which completed the monthly plan ahead of schedule at the Leninogorsk Mine received 14,000 rubles in the form of a progressive wage.(5)

The combine's iron-casting shop has already produced 146 tons of iron castings above the 1950 plan.(6)

The Donskoye Mine Administration, also in Vostochno-Kazakhstan Oblast, has completed ahead of schedule the 1950 year plan for mining chromite ore. In the enterprises under the administration, there is not a single worker who is not meeting the norm.(4)

COPPER PLANTS' PRODUCTION HIGH

Kazakhstan and Armenian copper enterprises report early plan fulfillment and high production achievements.

The Irtysh Copper-Smelting Plant, Vostochno-Kazakhstan Oblast, completed ahead of schedule the 10-month plan for production output. The smelting shop took top honors in the competition, with good work done also in the sinter shop, converter and water-jacket furnace shops.(7) All workers in the plant are meeting the progressive norms. Since the beginning of the year, the plant has gained almost 2 million rubles in above-plan accumulations.

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On 24 October, the Balkhash Copper-Smelting Plant, Karaganda Oblast, completed the 10-month plan for smelting blister copper. The Balkhash Rolled Non-ferrous Metal Plant is also producing above the 10-month plan.(3)

In 1950, the Karsakpay Copper-Smelting Plant, Karaganda Oblast, has been increasing labor productivity and output of production. The plant exceeded by a considerable degree the 11-month plan and is now producing toward the December plan. In October, output of blister copper increased 12 percent over September. The plant now has the highest economic indexes it has ever had. The above-plan accumulations for 1950 amount to almost 10 million rubles.(8)

The Alaverdi Copper-Smelting Plant (director, A. Sarkisyan; chief engineer, A. Kazakov) recently made a study of the different work methods used by workers in various professions. From this information, the plant was able to choose and adopt the most productive and efficient methods of performing each operation in production. The study showed, for example, that it was possible to convert the crushing and charge-mixing division of the metallurgical shop to a two-shift system of work by increasing the coefficient of utilization of equipment, consolidating worker time, and eliminating excess and nonproductive operations. As a result of the conversion to the two-shift operation, 18 percent of the working force in the division were released for other work, the coefficient for utilization of equipment was increased 32.3 percent, and 13,310 kilowatt-hours of electric power were saved in one month. Recently, labor productivity in the division increased to 210 percent of the norm.

Equally outstanding results were obtained in the electrolysis shop. Adoption of the precision methods of one leading worker, who paid particular attention to maintaining a definite temperature of 48-50 degrees centigrade in the bath and the necessary density of current on the starting series, as well as to using the correct lubricant of the dies, enabled the cathode division of the electrolysis shop to cut consumption of lubricants by 30 percent, increase labor productivity by 20 percent, and to release 40 percent of the working force in the division for other jobs.

In the wire bar shop, defective production for a long time had been as high as 50 percent of all production, and the shop consistently failed to meet its production plans. One worker's experience showed that production quality depended to a great extent on correct installation of the double-grooved spout of the pouring ladle, so that the stream of molten metal would not slosh on the sides of the molds but would be poured directly into the center. Beginning in August, the shop began to meet its plans, completing the September plan ahead of schedule and decreasing defective production to one thirteenth of the July figure.

In the converter division, a shift foreman had been able to cut down the time limits for various operations. Pouring of one ladle of copper took 3 minutes as compared with the usual 6-7 minutes. By thus decreasing the time spent in various operations, he increased the coefficient for utilization of the converter in blow to 80 percent and increased the yield of copper per hour of blow by 15-20 percent.(9) The division exceeded the 9-month plan for blister copper production by 11.1 percent.

The plant's machine shop has considerably improved the quality of parts it produces and completed its year plan in 9 months.(10)

The Shamlug Copper Mines, also in Alaverdskiy Rayon, Armenian SSR, fulfilled the September plan 107.8 percent for ore mining, 110 percent for copper content of the ore, 116.3 percent for mine prospecting work, and 115.5 percent for mine development work.(11)

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ZINC CONSUMPTION CUT

The Batumi Galvanizing Plant, Georgian SSR, has been making an effort to save metal. Formerly, 260 kilograms of zinc were used per ton of production, whereas now, the galvanizing shop uses only 210 kilograms.(12)

KIRGIZ COMBINE COMPLETES FIVE-YEAR PLAN

The Metallurgical Combine imeni Frunze, Osh Oblast, Kirgiz SSR, has completed ahead of schedule the Five-Year Plan for mining and processing ore. The combine has obtained more than 2 million rubles in accumulations above plan this year.(13)

SOURCES

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5. Alma-Ata, Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, 27 Oct 50
6. Alma-Ata, Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, 3 Nov 50
7. Alma-Ata, Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, 26 Oct 50
8. Alma-Ata, Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, 5 Nov 50
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10. Yerevan, Kommunist, 17 Oct 50
11. Yerevan, Kommunist, 13 Oct 50
12. Tbilisi, Zarya Vostoka, 8 Oct 50
13. Frunze, Sovetskaya Kirgi-ya, 5 Nov 50

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